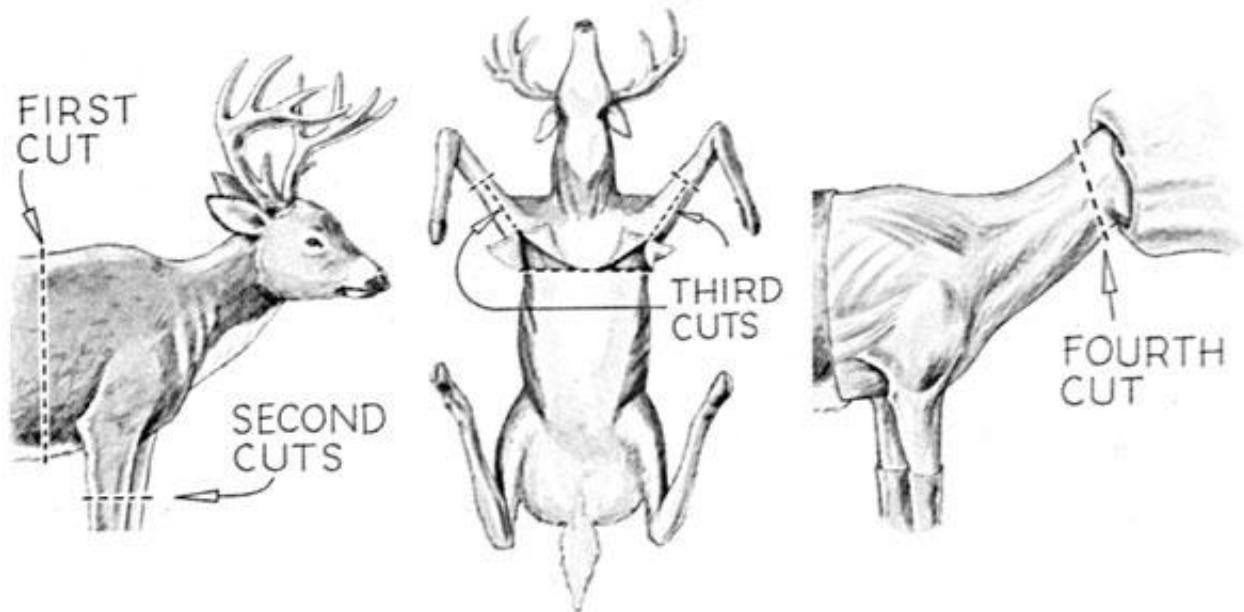


Field Care and Skinning



This method works best on **Deer** sized animals. This method can also be used on Elk and Moose sized animals, but may be a little more difficult on such a large animal. Begin by making an incision around the circumference of the animal at least 8 inches behind the front shoulder on deer size animals. On Elk and Moose sized animals at least 12 inches behind the front shoulder. Sever both front legs at the knee.

Once your animal is skinned out, get it to a freezer or to a taxidermist as soon as possible. You will want to keep the Cape as cool and dry as possible. Don't put the hide in a plastic bag. Place it in a burlap bag, it will allow air to circulate and keep flies and other insects off your trophy. It will also allow heat and fluids to escape.

Heat and moisture is a hides worst enemy. They promote bacteria growth that will cause the hair to slip (hair falling out), sometimes in large patches. Once this has started it doesn't stop until all the hair has fallen out of the infected area. If it is hot outside you will need to work as quickly as you can. If it is below 40 degrees you will have a little more time to work.

DO NOT. . .

* Leave the cape / Skin in a walk in cooler for longer than 48 hours.

- * Get the cape / skin wet.
- * Lay the cape/skin in the sun, keep it in the shade.
- * Drag the animal behind a 4-wheeler when bringing it out of the woods. This can damage the hair and cause bald spots.
- * Ride the animal / hide around in the back of your truck all day showing it off to friends and family. Take pictures and get the animal in the freezer or to the taxidermist
- * Don't cut the throat to bleed out your animal. If the animal is dead it really does no good. Once the heart has stopped pumping, the blood stops flowing. By cutting the throat you can cause a great deal of damage to the cape. Once the animal is shot, more than likely the animal has bled out internally.